

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of preparing a moldable polymer composition comprising:

(a) forming a mixture of a fluoroplastic thermoplastic material and a curable fluorocarbon elastomer at a temperature above the melting point of the thermoplastic;

(b) adding a curing composition to the mixture, wherein the curing composition comprises an initiator having a half-life of 0.1 hours or more at a temperature of about ~~180°C~~ 190°C or higher and crosslinking agent; and

(c) heating while continuing to mix the mixture and the curing composition at a temperature and for a time sufficient to cure the elastomer.

2. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the initiator has a half-life of 0.1 hours or more at a temperature of about ~~190°C~~ 200°C or higher.

3. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the initiator has a half-life of 0.1 hours or more at a temperature of about ~~200°C~~ 207°C or higher.

4. (original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic material comprises a fluorine-containing thermoplastic polymer.

5. (original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the curable fluorocarbon elastomer comprises a copolymer of VDF, HFP, and a cure site monomer.

6. (original) A method according to Claim 5, wherein the curable fluorocarbon elastomer comprises a copolymer of VDF, HFP, TFE, and a cure site monomer.

7. (original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the fluorocarbon elastomer comprises a copolymer of VDF, fluorinated vinyl ether, TFE, and a cure site monomer.

8. (original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the fluorocarbon elastomer comprises a copolymer of VDF, propylene, TFE, and a cure site monomer.

9. (original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the fluorocarbon elastomer comprises a copolymer of VDF, TFE, HFP, ethylene, fluorinated vinyl ether, and a cure site monomer.

10.(original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the fluorocarbon elastomer comprises a perfluoro rubber.

11.(original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the fluorocarbon elastomer comprises a copolymer of TFE and propylene.

12.(original) A method according to Claim 1, comprising heating the mixture above about 180°C.

13.(original) A method according to Claim 12, comprising heating the mixture above about 190°C.

14.(original) A method according to Claim 13, comprising heating the mixture above about 200°C.

15-49. (cancelled)